

REMARKS

The Examiner's attention to the present application is noted with appreciation, as is the indication of allowability of the subject matter of claims 15, 17, and 19.

Claim 11 has been amended to incorporate the subject matter of claim 15, now canceled, and also to note that a plurality of sets of at least two electrodes are employed. New claims 32-34 combine the subject matters of claim 11 and claims 17-19, respectively, but deleting "force detecting" from the preamble in claim 32. Withdrawn claims 20-31 are canceled.

The Examiner objected to the specification as purportedly not including an abstract. Note that the application is a national entry application from a PCT application. Accordingly, the abstract may be found on the cover sheet of the PCT publication of the application.

Claims 11, 32, and 33, which are now allowable, are generic as to species earlier withdrawn from consideration. Pursuant to MPEP § 809.02(c)(B)(1), the Examiner is requested to now examine claims 16 and 18.

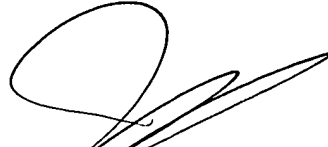
In that allowable product claims are now presented, pursuant to MPEP § 821.04 ("Rejoinder"), new process claims 35-45 are presented, corresponding to product claims 11-14, 16-19, and 32-34, which include all limitations of the product claims (although method limitations may be interpreted differently than product claims for infringement purposes). Accordingly, these claims are now also allowable.

An earnest attempt has been made to respond to each and every ground of rejection advanced by the Examiner. However, should the Examiner have any queries, suggestions or comments relating to a speedy disposition of the application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned.

Reconsideration and allowance are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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